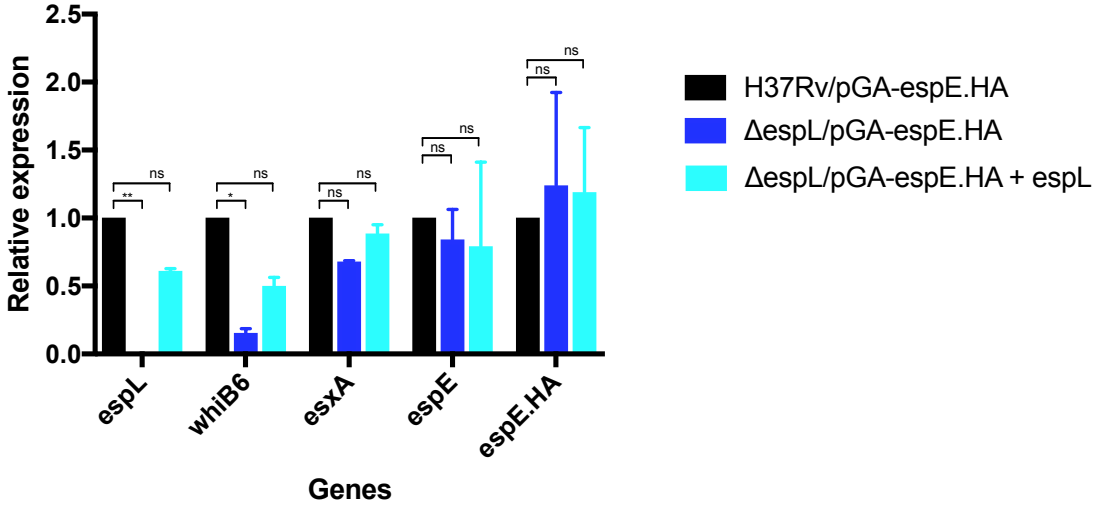
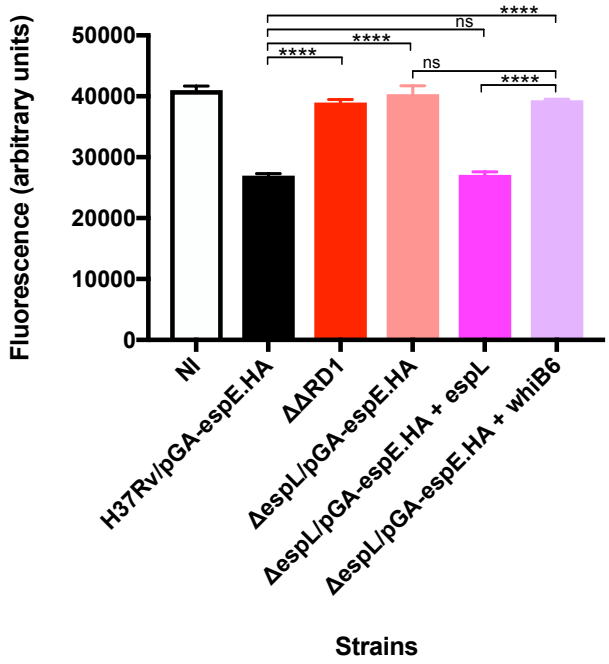
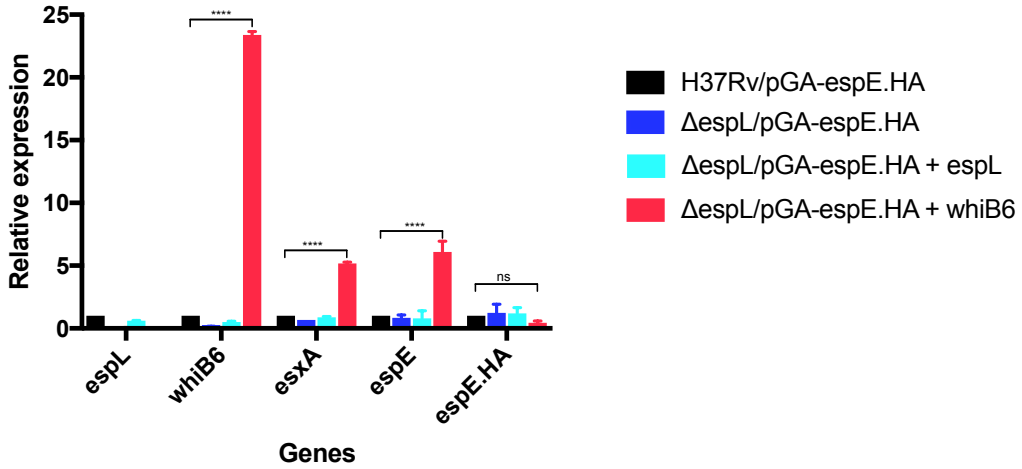
A



B



C



S8 Fig. Legend on next page.

S8 Fig. Expression of EspE.HA in H37Rv and in Δ*espL* mutant. A) qRT-PCR analysis of *espL*, *whiB6*, *esxA, espE* and *espE*.HA gene expression levels in different strains. Data were obtained from two independent replicates, normalized to the housekeeping gene *sigA* and expressed as relative to H37Rv/*pGA-espE*.HA. *, $p < 0.05$. **, $p < 0.005$. ns, not significant in two-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test. **B)** Virulence of Δ*espL* mutant expressing *whiB6 in trans* compared to H37Rv, Δ*espL* and complemented strain in the THP-1 infection model. THP-1 cells were infected at multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 5. Note that all of the strains, except ΔΔRD1, express *espE*.HA. ΔΔRD1 carries a deletion of the extended ESX-1 locus. Fluorescence measurements directly correlate with THP-1 viability. Data were expressed as the mean and standard deviation (SD) of four independent replicates. NI: not infected control. ****, $p < 0.0001$. ns, not significant in one-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test. **C)** qRT-PCR analysis of the expression levels of the indicated genes in different strains, upon ectopic expression of *whiB6*. Data were obtained from two independent replicates, normalized to the housekeeping gene *sigA* and expressed as relative to H37Rv/*pGA-espE*.HA. ****, $p < 0.0001$. ns, not significant in two-way ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test.